

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 02859 211510Z

63

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 H-03 CIAE-00 INR-10

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R 211442Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO AMCONSUL MUNICH

SECSTATE WASHDC 9124

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 2859

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: RADIO FREE EUROPE

1. DURING OPENING DINNER OF POLISH-AMERICAN ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE MAY 20, VICE FOREIGN MINISTER BISZTYGA TOLD ME THAT HE HAD RECENTLY ASKED HIS "EXPERTS" TO ANALYZE THE OUTPUT OF RFE'S POLISH SERVICE. THE "ANALYSIS" THAT THEY HAD PREPARED SHOWS, ACCORDING TO BISZTYGA, THAT THERE WAS A "SHARP CHANGE" IN THE CHARACTER OF COMMENTARY AND POLITICAL REPORTING "BEGINNING ABOUT A MONTH AND A HALF AGO." BEFORE THIS "SHARP CHANGE", BISZTYGA SAID, RFE'S POLISH OUTPUT WAS "MORE OBJECTIVE," ALTHOUGH, OF COURSE, IT HAD AT NO TIME BEEN SUCH AS TO MAKE IT PALATABLE TO HIS AUTHORITIES. NOW, BISZTYGA SAID, RFE'S POLISH OUTPUT "IS THE SAME AS IT WAS THREE AND MORE YEARS AGO." THE ATTACKS ON PERSONALITIES AND THE "RUMORS" BEING PURVEYED ON THEIR "PRIVATE LIVES" ARE "OFFENSIVE." SINCE THIS WAS A PROBLEM WHICH AFFECTED THE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, BISZTYGA SAID, HE HAD ASKED MRS. PASTECKA TO INVITE PAO BALDYGA TO COME TO SEE HER "IN THE FIRST HALF OF JUNE" IN ORDER TO GO OVER THE MATERIAL PRODUCED BY THE "EXPERTS."

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PAGE 02 WARSAW 02859 211510Z

2. I SAID I WAS NOT AWARE OF ANY "SHARP CHANGE" IN

THE APPROACH OF RFE'S POLISH SERVICE, NOR WAS I AWARE OF ANY REASON WHY SUCH AN ALLEGED CHANGE SHOULD HAVE TAKEN PLACE. I SAID THAT MR. BALDYGA WOULD OF COURSE BE READY TO MEET WITH MRS. PASTECKA AT ANY TIME. AT THIS POINT, BISZTYGA INTERJECTED, "PERHAPS IT WILL BE AROUND THE MIDDLE OF JUNE. WE WOULD TAKE NOTE OF MRS. PASTECKA'S PRESENTATION, I CONTINUED, AND WOULD CONSIDER FORWARDING WHAT SHE HAD TO SAY TO THE PROPER AUTHORITIES ON OUR SIDE. WE WOULD DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT SUCH A CHANGE AS HE HAD DESCRIBED HAD IN FACT TAKEN PLACE. I ASSUMED, I SAID, THAT MRS. PASTECKA WOULD NOT DEAL IN GENERALITIES, BUT WOULD DOCUMENT HER CONTENTION. BISZTYGA SAID THAT SHE WOULD.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: (A) FOR MUNICH: SINCE RFE'S SCRIPTS REACH US WITH A DELAY OF A MONTH OR MORE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TRANSLATIONS (AND, WHERE THESE ARE UNAVAILABLE, THE POLISH ORIGINALS) OF POLITICAL COMMENTARIES AND REPORTS SINCE THE MIDDLE OF APRIL, ON WHICH WE CAN BASE AN ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT CONTENT AND TONE OF BROADCASTING BEFORE THE BALDYGA MEETING WITH PASTECKA.

(B) FOR THE DEPARTMENT AND MUNICH: ANY COMMENTS FROM MUNICH OR WASHINGTON WHICH MIGHT BEAR UPON BISZTYGA'S ALLEGATION OF A "SHARP CHANGE" IN THE APPROACH OF THE POLISH SERVICE WOULD ALSO BE APPRECIATED.
DAVIES

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NNN

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